lakhs has been sanctioned to the Government of Orissa and Rs. 4,38,320/- has been sanctioned to three consumer associations/organisations in Orissa from the Consumer Welfare Fund.

(c) Does not arise.

Identification of blocks under PM's scheme in backward areas to supply consumer goods

3058. CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH:

SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 798 given in the Rajya Sabha on 20th March, 1995 and state:

(a) what steps are being taken to increase the supply of levy sugar and . other items to the States under PDS; and

(b) whether some blocks have been identified in the States under the Prime Minister's scheme in backward areas for providing the consumer goods at subsidised rates?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Central Government makes bulk allocation of rice and wheat to the States/UTs for the PDS taking into account the demand received from the States, availability of stocks in Central Pool, interse requirements of States/UTs and seasonal factors. Levy sugar allocation is generally made on a uniform norm of 425 grams per capita monthly availability to the projected population as on 1.10.86. Increases in allocation of sugar for the PDS has not been feasible due to constraints in availability of levy sugar.

With affect from 1st June, 1992, the Central Government has been issuing foodgrains meant for distribution in the area identified for coverage under the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) at specially subsidised Central Issue Prices which are Rs. 50 per quintal lower than the normal Central Issue Prices (CIP) foruch foodgrains. Central Government has advised States/UTs that the end retail prices of foodgrains issued in these areas should not exceed the specially subsidised Central Issue Prices by more than 25 paise per kg. Central Government has been making additional allocation of 3.2 million tonnes of foodgrains per annum to enable the States/UTs to make available 20 kg per family per household in the RPDS areas. An overall increase of three percent in the total annual allocation of Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) for the PDS has been made in 1994-95 and 1995-96.

The scheme of Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) was launched by the Prime Minister at a function held in Barmer, Rajasthan on 1st January, 1992. The scheme is being implemented at present in 1775 block identified in consulta ion with State Governments/UT Administrations. Central Government provides foodgrains at specially subsidised rates for the RPDS areas. State Governments/UT Administrations had agreed to distribute on their own, additionaritems of mass consumption such as tea, iodised salt, soaps and pulses through fair price shops in the RPDS areas as per local needs and preferences.

Emphasis on adequate supply of Commdtties to FPS

3059. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether . Government propose to lay more emphasis on Fair Price

Shops, adequate supply of commodities to the shops and increased supply of essential commodities; and

(b) if so, the State-wise details of the works undertaken in the States during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFEAIRS *AND* PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Strengthening and streamlining of Public Distribution System (PDS) is a continual process- The operational responsibility for actual distribution of PDS commodities to the consumers is that of the State Governments/UT Administra-

Measures and suggestions *to* improve the reach of the PDS are discussed in meetings of the Advisoiy Council of PDS with State Governments and UT Administrations.

(b) At present, 1775 blocks in the country, covered under various area specific programmes such as Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP), Designated Hill Area (DHA) and Integrated Tribal Development Programme (ITDP) are covered also under the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS). Twenty three States and four UTs have areas covered under the RPDS, RPDS is benefiting an estimated population of about 165 million living in these areas. As part of RPDS programme, State Governments/UT Administrations have agreed (i) to open additional fair price shops (FPS) in the RPDS areas wherever necessary; (ii) to issue additional ration cards to population not so far covered; (iii) to make arrangements for door step delivery of PDS items to FPSs and (iv) to construct or hire godowns for stocking of PDS .foodgrains. Foodgrains meant for distribution in RPDS areas are issued at specially subsidised Central Issue Prices which are Rs- 50/- per quintal lower than the Central Prices of foodgrains for normal PDS. State Governments'/U.T Administrations have been advised that the end retail prices should not exceed the Central Issue Price o,f foodgrains by more than 25 paise per kg. in RPDS areas.

A statement showing the progress in implementation of the RPDS since 30-09-1991 till 15-04-1995 as reported by States/UTs "is enclosed.

Statement

Progress in implementation of Revamped Public Distribution System
{As per report received from States/UTs upto 15th April 1995).

State/UTs	Addl. Fair Price Shops Opened Nos.	addi-tional Ration Cards Nos.	Additional Storage Capcity		No. of FPS Covered under door step delivery Nos.
			Hired	Created (In MTs)	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh.	362	229733	115000	0	8233
Arunachal Pradesh.	277	13523	0	3200	876
Assam	385	12973	0	0	411
Bihar	2469	296885	0	8600	185

1	2	3	4	5	6
Gujarat	276	303875	14865	0	646
Haryana	432	131	0	0	2116
Himachal Pradesh	8	1604	2000	1300	63
J. K.	123	900	5450	1100	0
Karnataka	1256	725149	7592	9800	7781
Kerala	62	75493	0	0	1723
Madhya Pradesh	1276	527000	241670	11000	7238
Maharashtra	3395	456000	17000	6000	2500
Manipur	74	65890	0	0	604
Meghalaya	104	4572	200	0	244
Mizoram	99	5784	0	2060	180
Nagaland	24	0	7340	0	0
Orissa	1153	223771	13000	0	0
Rajasthan	1079	386839	0	25550	9234
Sikkim	2	30000	0	0	54
Tamil Nadu	19	194886	0	0	2259
Tripura	32	18075	425	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	1141	80305	37716	0	4610
West Bengal	69	51644	0	0	
Andaman & Nicobar	18	369	0	0	45
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	11	2516	0	0	
Daman & Diu	1	550	0	0	0
Lakshadweep	2	1800	0	548	34
TOTAL :	14149	3710267	462358	69158	5441